



# Sweet Briar

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## NEWSLETTER

NO. 6

BULLETIN OF SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE

MAY 1971

### Biology Major Wins Watson Fellowship

A highly-prized academic award—an \$8,000 Watson Foundation Fellowship for a postgraduate year of independent study and travel abroad—has been won by Carole McIvor, senior biology major from Monroe, Va.

One of 70 Watson Fellows from 34 colleges and universities throughout the country, Mrs. McIvor will spend next year in Australia, associated with Queensland University in Brisbane.

In the Honors Program at Sweet Briar she is working in both biology and chemistry at present, analyzing water samples taken from a stream below the dam and investigating the effects of water chemicals on marine life there.

Carole has been in touch with Dr. Allen B. Cribb, an algologist whose specialty is algae of the Great Barrier Reef, and has been invited to work with him and probably with members of the zoology department at Queensland.

With her husband and young son, Carole will leave Virginia early in August. They will drive to California and hope to travel to Australia on a freighter.

A 1964 graduate of Amherst County High School, Carole entered Sweet Briar three years later, after her marriage and the birth of her son. She has been an outstanding student in college, elected to Phi Beta Kappa as a junior and designated an Emilie Watts McVea Scholar this year as the ranking member of her class. She recently won an Honorable Mention in the Danforth Graduate Fellowship Program. She plans a college teaching career in biology and ecology.

Another Sweet Briar senior, Katherine Fisher, of Chester, Va., is one of five Watson Fellowship alternates. Majoring in international affairs under the Honors Program, she is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and has been a McVea Scholar.

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### Commencement Speakers Announced

Sweet Briar's sixty-second commencement exercises will take place on the morning of May 30, with an address by Gilbert Melville Grosvenor, editor and vice president of the National Geographic Society. The Baccalaureate sermon on Saturday afternoon May 29 will be delivered by Dr. William G. Rusch, executive of the Synod of Pennsylvania of the United Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

##### COMMENCEMENT

May 29 Baccalaureate Service, 3 p.m.  
Dr. William G. Rusch  
President's Garden Party, 4:30

May 30 Commencement, 10:30 a.m.  
Gilbert M. Grosvenor

##### ALUMNAE REUNIONS

May 30 Registration, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Class picnic suppers

May 31 Panel: *Sweet Briar Today*  
Alumnae luncheon, 12:30 p.m.  
Faculty 'Open Houses'  
Dinner honoring Mrs. Pannell

June 1 Alumnae College: *Agenda for Tomorrow*  
President's luncheon

Dr. Rusch, father of a degree candidate, Carolyn Rusch, holds a bachelor's degree, with honors, from Washington and Jefferson College; a B.D. from Western Theological Seminary, Holland, Mich.; and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. He was formerly pastor of the Church of the Covenant in Washington, Pa., where as a leader in community affairs, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the local branch of the NAACP. During World War II he served in the Air Force as an aerial navigator in the Pacific Theatre.



### Mellon Grant Awarded for Faculty Support

Sweet Briar is one of 16 private independent liberal arts colleges in the country which have received faculty support grants of \$200,000 each from the Andrew J. Mellon Foundation of New York.

Given primarily to support the college's humanities program, the grant may be used for such purposes as salary increases, additions to faculty, and paid released time, but it may not be used for endowment.

In addition to Sweet Briar, the following were chosen this year: Barnard, Bowdoin, Colby, Colgate, Earlham, Goucher, Haverford, Hollins, Kenyon, Lawrence, Middlebury, Pomona, St. Lawrence, Skidmore and Swarthmore.

Last year the Foundation made similar grants to 15 other colleges. The awards are an extension of the Foundation's program to aid the humanities through the establishment of endowed professorships, begun in 1961.

Dr. Rusch has held many church offices and is now a member of the national staff and executive committee of the Board of National Missions. In 1966 he served for six weeks as exchange pastor of the John Knox Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen, Scotland.

Mr. Grosvenor, a grandson of the founder of the National Geographic,

joined the National Geographic Society in 1954, immediately after his graduation from Yale University, and is a life member of its board of trustees. Also a trustee of the New York Zoological Society, the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, the Conservation Foundation, and Mt. Vernon Junior College, Mr. Grosvenor is chairman of the Department of Interior's Alaska Parks and Monuments Advisory Committee.

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## New Member Elected to Board of Overseers

Election of James H. Evans, a railroad executive from New York, to a six-year term on the Board of Overseers was recently announced by Robert C. Tyson, board chairman. His daughter, Carol Evans, is a sophomore at Sweet Briar and he serves on the Parents Council as fund agent for her class.

Mr. Evans is president of the Union Pacific Corp. and vice-chairman of the Union Pacific Railroad Co. He was president and trustee of the Seamen's Bank for Savings, in New York, for five years before he accepted his present position with Union Pacific in 1969. He had been a director of the railroad since 1965.



After his graduation from Centre College in Kentucky, on whose board he now serves as chairman of the finance committee, Mr. Evans had four years' service in the Navy during World War II. He resumed his studies at the University of Chicago Law School, was editor of its Law Review, and received a J. D. degree in 1948.

Mr. Evans has also been an officer of the Harris Trust & Savings Bank in Chicago; the Reuben H. Donnelly Corp., first in Chicago and then in New York; and Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., as vice-president and director for three years.

His civic activities include chairmanship of the executive board, American Red Cross in Greater New York; vice-chairman, United Fund of Greater New York; trustee and executive committee member of the National Recreation and Park Association; member, President's Advisory Committee on Recreation and Natural Beauty; director, Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation. He is a member of the Economic clubs of Chicago and New York and of the Chicago and American Bar Associations.

Two other new members of the Board of Overseers, Mr. Emil J. Patterson, New York, board chairman of The First Boston Corp., and Mr. James F. Olmsted, vice-president of Intermediate Credit Corp., Washington, were elected earlier this year. Resignations of the following have been accepted: W. Wright Bryan, 1957-70; Miss Margaret Clapp, 1965-70; Bishop Christoph Keller, who filled the unexpired term of Bishop Watson, 1969-70; and J. Wilson Newman, 1960-70.

## Nelson Prize Established

An endowed fund to provide an annual Lawrence G. Nelson Prize for Excellence in English has been established by faculty colleagues, former students and other friends of the respected and warmly-regarded English professor who died last October.

The award will be given each year at Commencement to a student named by the English department, of which Prof. Nelson was a member for more than 20 years. The choice will be based on general excellence, and is not limited to the student who has the highest cumulative record in English courses.

Although the fund is modest, it is expected to grow in response to news of its establishment. Contributions, made payable to Sweet Briar College, may be sent to the Development Office.

## Thirteen Accepted for Study in France

Thirteen members of the Class of 1973 have been admitted to the 1971-72 Junior Year in France, the coeducational program which has been administered by Sweet Briar since 1948.

The following are enrolled: Margaret Bender, Washington; Judith Buttrick, Concord, N. H.; Blanchette Chappell, Columbus, Ga.; Virginia Conley, Jacksonville; Cary Davis, New Orleans; Carter Heyward, Columbia, S. C.; Elisabeth Montgomery, Martinsville, Va.; Andrea Niles, Atlanta; Pamela Rasche, Milwaukee; Catharine Rasmussen, Bethesda, Md.; Jennifer Stockwell, Monterrey, Mexico; Marianne Vandervort, Deerfield, Ill.; and Melinda Williams, Richmond.

An appraisal of foreign study programs, published in a January issue of *Moneysworth*, a consumers' newsletter, stated: "It is widely acknowledged that the best college-sponsored study program of all is given by Sweet Briar College, which offers a junior-year-in-France program . . . The Sweet Briar program is only for top-notch students."

The group of approximately 100 students from all parts of the country will sail for France early in September. After six weeks' orientation to French life and studies in Tours, they will go to Paris to enroll in various affiliated institutions of the University.

Archille H. Biron, associate professor of modern languages at Colby College, Me., is serving for the second time in eight years as professor-in-charge of the program in France, and Mme. Edmonde Bissiere will continue as assistant professor-in-charge for the third successive year.

## Early Decision Candidates Enrolled in Class of '75

Fifty-five applicants under the Early Decision Plan were accepted for admission to the Class of 1975. They applied last October and all were enrolled in January.

Representing 27 public and 20 independent schools, these students come from 18 states, D. C., and the Panama Canal Zone. Fifteen are residents of Virginia, of whom three from Amherst County will be day students; four each from Georgia, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Texas; and three from Maryland, New York and South Carolina.

Eleven are sisters of present or former students and an equal number are alumnae daughters, as follows: Patricia Blalock, daughter of Sally Anderson Blalock '51 and sister of Sally '72; Carol Brewer, daughter of Grace Lanier Brewer '42 and sister of Betty '70 and Connie '72; Sarah Clement, daughter of Martha Mansfield Clement '48; Catherine Cowdery, daughter of Donna Stevens Cowdery '49; Constance Crocker, daughter of Marilyn Hannah Crocker '46 and sister of Camilla '71; Kitty Joyner, daughter of Kitty O'Brien Joyner '37; Mary-Somers Knight, daughter of Beverly Randolph Knight '46; Cecilia Robertson, daughter of Mary Barrett Robertson '48; Dorsey Tillett, daughter of Margaret Woods Tillett '49; Sally Williams, daughter of Sally Smith Williams '48 and sister of Lacy '73; Ellen Winn, daughter of Betty Bentsen Winn '53.

## Commencement Speakers

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For his coverage of President Eisenhower's 1959 trip to Europe, Asia and Africa, he received the National Press Photographer's Award, first place.

Mrs. Grosvenor, the former Donna Kerkham, is a 1960 graduate of Sweet Briar. She has accompanied her husband on news assignments around the world and has assisted with photography and writing.

## Watson Fellowship

*(continued from page 1, col. 1)*

The Watson Fellowship program, initiated in 1968, is supported by a trust established by the late Mrs. Thomas J. Watson, Sr., in memory of her husband. Each year only a small number of colleges and universities are invited to nominate candidates for fellowships; Sweet Briar was included for the first time this year.

## **Class of '70 Reports Jobs, Graduate Study**

How are recent Sweet Briar graduates faring in a tight labor market? Are there many jobs open to college women?

To find the answers, a questionnaire was sent to the Class of 1970; it brought responses from 102 of the 145 graduates. Among this number 59 are employed, including 16 who have married. While their jobs may not be their first choice, none reported failure to find work if she wanted it.

Eighteen graduates are teaching, seven are secretaries, and six are in some phase of banking. Others are employed in a wide range of fields from social welfare, hospital work, school administration, scientific research, library work and service organizations to positions in business and industry, insurance, publishing, computer programming, and government.

A total of 38 are in graduate schools where the largest number are taking education courses or working toward a master's degree in the subjects they will teach. Others are studying for such professions as law, social work, art, music and public relations.

Many expressed appreciation of their liberal arts education as an excellent background and preparation for any role. They said their Sweet Briar experience had given them poise and assurance, and the ability to meet and deal with all types of people. One spoke of her college years as "orientation to life."

### **Major Studies Useful**

Although not vocationally trained, some have been able to apply their major studies directly to the positions they now fill. Janine Brockie finds Spanish very useful in her work at Roosevelt Hospital, New York, where there are many Puerto Rican patients, and Sarah Campbell, who is in publishing and editing, leans on her background in English. Several mathematics majors are also applying their special knowledge: Teresa Eoff and Hannah Glass in computer programming; Mary Kelley as an actuarial aid; and Kathleen Kraemer as a technical assistant in a research management corporation.

A major in art history helped Suzanne Yates secure a library position; Johanna Zeltner, a biology major, is a biologist in a pharmaceutical firm; and Candace Bunker, employed by the Connecticut State Welfare Department, is using her background in sociology.



### **Faculty Members Learn About Computer Uses**

Seventeen faculty members representing nine academic departments became students again to take an intensive 10-hour course in the use of the computer. The class met on five Saturday mornings, and was taught by Donald G. McCants, director of the Educational Computer Center shared by Sweet Briar, Lynchburg College and Randolph-Macon Woman's College.

The faculty training program at the three colleges, to be supplemented by more extended summer institutes, and the purchase of three terminals for each college and other new equipment at the Educational Computer Center have been made possible by a \$150,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

Participants learned how to use the terminals, installed on campus, to communicate with the computer center. A teletypewriter operated on a telephone line, the terminal enables the programmer to dial the computer at the center, identify himself, and input his data. The computer results are recorded directly on the terminal unit.

### **Virginia Private Colleges Form New Association**

Twenty-six private colleges and universities have formed the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia, to gain a more effective voice in educational planning at state and national levels. Hollins College President John A. Logan, Jr., is the first president of this non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. It will not engage in fund-raising activities.

Executive director of the Council is Donald A. Holden, former board chairman of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. Holden, whose office will be in Charlottesville, has been prominently associated with the joint activities of independent colleges for a number of years.

The Council will not duplicate or be related in any way to the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges, a joint fund-raising enterprise operated for the benefit of 12 senior private institutions for the past 19 years, or to the Virginia College Fund, which was begun four years ago to seek financial aid for nine junior colleges.

### **Professor Publishes Bird Guide for Panama**

"Finding Birds in Panama", a book by ornithologist Ernest P. Edwards, was published early this year. Written for students of bird life and for the casual birdwatcher, the book lists 850 species of birds from Panama. It is a revised and enlarged edition of a guide published by Dr. Edwards in 1959.

An introduction to the geography, climate and transportation system of Panama, with helpful hints for the tourist regarding travel and living con-

ditions, precedes the chapters about different regions of the country and the bird life characteristic of each.

Another book by Dr. Edwards, "Finding Birds in Mexico", was published in a second edition in 1968.

He is now at work on a third publication, "Finding Birds in Virginia," to be published by the University Press of Virginia, which he expects to complete during a sabbatical leave next year.

## Campus Notes

● Dr. Frank C. DeSua, Dana professor of mathematics, and Lentz C. DeVol, associate professor of physics, will attend a National Science Foundation Summer Institute in Computer Science for College Teachers, to be held at Pennsylvania State University, June 28 to August 26. Computer applications to mathematical research and computer programming for instructional purposes will be emphasized.

● Dr. Gregory T. Armstrong, associate professor of religion, has received a summer study grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, one of approximately 120 awarded this year. Dr. Armstrong and his family will spend three months in Salzburg, Austria, where he will do research on his topic, "Jerusalem: The Holy City for Jew, Christian and Arab," at the Institute for Religion and Theology.

● A short course in Ecology and Ornithology will be given for the third successive summer by Dr. Ernest P. Edwards, professor of biology, June 13-19. After the first week of intensive field and laboratory work, lectures and films, participants who wish to earn college credit will pursue work independently, either on campus or elsewhere, for another week. Pre-arranged assignments, a short paper, and a written examination will be required. Those who enroll for the first week only will not be eligible for credit.

● "Satana in Milton e Dante," an article by Dr. Ferdinando Alfonsi, assistant professor of Italian, appeared in the November-December 1970 issue of the Italian bi-monthly magazine, *Città di Vita*. Five book reviews by Dr. Alfonsi were published in the same periodical between last July and December.

● Two sophomores, Susan Dern, Canajoharie, N. Y., and Alice Fahs, Battle Creek, Mich., have been admitted to St. Andrews University, Scotland, for the coming year. In the exchange program which began in 1950, Mary Elizabeth Caven, of Grappenhall, Cheshire, England, will hold the St. Andrews Scholarship at Sweet Briar. Now completing her second year at the Scottish university, where she is reading for an honours degree in modern history, Mary wants to study American history, government and literature at Sweet Briar.

## Winter Term Offerings Present Many Choices

A wide range of concentrated, innovative courses for the first Winter term, representing every discipline in the college curriculum, was presented to students at spring registration in April.

Under the 4-1-4 plan, which refers to the number of courses normally carried in the three terms, the college year is divided into Fall and Spring terms of 13 weeks each, separated by a four-week Winter term.

During January, students may pursue independent study projects or elect a course or seminar which need not be related to the student's major.

Topics proposed by the faculty range from a study of ancient Greek and Roman coins to matters of timely interest, such as women's lib, meteorology, library research methods, filmmaking, introduction to computer science, or new media in studio art.

Seminar offerings include The Contemporary Status of Women in America, by Dr. Thomas V. Gilpatrick, professor of government, and Mrs. Mary F. Maddox, instructor in English; The Development of American Feminism, 1800-1960, by Dr. Paul E. Taylor, assistant professor of history; and Contemporary Politics in the Middle East, by Kenneth D. Grimm, assistant professor of government. Politics and Environment, offered jointly by several professors, will have a week of lectures followed by conferences on individual student projects.

In biology, students interested in Local Winter Flora chose the course offered by Dr. Elizabeth Sprague, or Science and Politics, by Dr. Jane Belcher. Chemistry and English join forces in Science and Human Values, offered by Dr. John McClenon and Dr. Richard Rowland.

Three weeks in Vienna, with daily lectures by Prof. Lucile Umbreit and attendance at concerts, operas, and high masses, is open to six students.

Closer to home, psychology majors can observe and participate in various services and activities at the Lynchburg Training School and Hospital, a state institution for mentally-retarded.

Extra-Sensory Perception is a seminar offered by Dr. Phyllis Stevens, psychology professor.

Not all of the 60 courses and seminars listed will be given, depending on enrollments and on the number of students who plan acceptable independent study projects. In any case, the Winter term promises to be an experiment in learning for all participants, faculty as well as students.

## Phi Beta Kappa Chapter Initiates Eleven Members

Eight seniors and three juniors who were elected to Phi Beta Kappa Society during this year were initiated into membership by the Theta of Virginia Chapter on May 3.

Following the chapter dinner in honor of the initiates, Dr. Leon F. Sensabaugh, professor of history at Washington & Lee University and visiting professor of Latin American History at Sweet Briar, gave a talk on "The Mission of Henry A. Wise to Brazil, 1844-47."

Seniors include: Rhoda and Ruth Allen, twins from Cincinnati; Cynthia Clarke, Louisville; Katharine Fisher, Chester, Va.; Caroline Gibbes and Roma Skeen, both of Columbia, S. C.; Carol Newman, Lexington, Va.; and Marie Walkley, Virginia Beach.

Juniors are Elizabeth Walbridge, New York; and Katherine and Virginia Upchurch, twins from Birmingham.

## STUDENT HONORS

DEAN'S LIST. Seniors: Rhoda Allen; Cynthia Clarke; Camilla Crocker; Leigh Edens; Katharine Fisher; Caroline Gibbes; Lendon Gray; Anne Helms; Marilyn Kolb; Margaret Mackie; Carole McIvor; Lynn Moore; Carol Newman; Deborah Pigman; Rebecca Randolph; Carol Remington; Roma Skeen; Alix Sommer; Ann Tippin; Sally Uptegrove; Diana Zeidel. Juniors: Eleanor Harleston; Susan Jensen; Edna Omsanski; Caroline Talbot; Katherine and Virginia Upchurch; Sarah von Rosenberg; Elizabeth Walbridge. Sophomores: Freida Carpenter; Virginia Conley; Roberta Culbertson; Gail Freeman; Jane Gensler; Alice McInnis; Deborah Pollock; Ruth Rowan; Champe Smith; Kathryn Thiling; Virginia Thompson; Marianne Vandervort; Kathleen Williams; Melinda Williams.

FRESHMAN HONOR LIST: Victoria Bates; Patricia Carroll; Phoebe Fisher; Catherine Flaitz; Anita Garrity; Anne Hall; Sandra Herring; Alice Hodges; Holly Hoffman; Catherine Matheson; Linda McKenna; Sydney Meredith; Elaine Mills; Catherine Robertson; Mary Agnes Vesely; Mary Witt.

● A summer course in Contemporary Riding and Schooling is offered for the first time at Sweet Briar, from June 13 to July 10, by Paul D. Cronin, director of riding, aided by a guest instructor. Open to riders at the intermediate level, the course will include *dressage sportif*, jumping, and cross-country riding with an introduction to schooling horses and horse science. Instruction is based on a one-hour lecture and four hours of mounted work daily for five days and individual projects on the sixth day each week.

## Sweet Briar's Sixth

The appointment of Dr. Harold Bartlett Whiteman, Jr., Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at New York University, as president of Sweet Briar College, effective July 1, was announced April 18 by Robert C. Tyson, chairman of Sweet Briar's Board of Directors.

Dr. Whiteman will succeed Dr. Anne Gary Pannell, who has previously announced her retirement at the close of the current school year after having served the 66-year-old college as its fifth president for the past 21 years.

The appointment of her successor was announced to the Sweet Briar community by President Pannell at a special assembly at noon on Friday, April 16.

"Sweet Briar College, its students, faculty, staff and alumnae, are indeed fortunate to have such an outstanding educator as Dr. Whiteman assume the presidency following the distinguished career of Dr. Pannell," Mr. Tyson said.

"Dr. Pannell's administration has been marked by significant developments which have greatly strengthened this college for women. The curriculum has been enriched, especially in the sciences and art, and interdisciplinary courses and independent studies have been expanded. The endowment has been increased and seven major buildings have been added. Recognized nationally as a leader in higher education, Dr. Pannell is completing a four-year-term as president of the American Association of University Women."

### President-elect Bids For Cooperation

In accepting the appointment, Dr. Whiteman said, "I am fortunate to be able to build upon the excellence created by Dr. Pannell, her staff and faculty, and I propose, with the continued cooperation of all concerned, to keep Sweet Briar in the forefront of educating women for the ever larger and more numerous roles they will fill in the coming years."

## President Appointed



A native of Nashville, Tennessee, Dr. Whiteman is a graduate of Yale University, *magna cum laude*, in 1941. While at Yale, he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, national scholastic fraternity, and served as captain of the varsity football team in his senior year. A self-supporting student, he earned a part of his financial aid by managing the student laundry. In 1950, he received his M.A. degree in political science from Vanderbilt University and, in 1958, his Ph.D. degree in international relations from Yale.

Dr. Whiteman entered military service in 1942 and was assigned as Special Services Officer, Air Transport Command, Africa-Middle East Theater. Later he was transferred to the Military Government in Korea, before his discharge in 1946 with the rank of major.

### Administrator and Teacher at Yale

Returning to Yale in 1948, this time in a dual capacity as administrator and student, Dr. White-

man served successively as Assistant Dean of Freshmen; director of American Studies for Foreign Students; Dean of Undergraduate Affairs; Dean of the Freshman Year; Lecturer in History and Associate Dean of Yale College.

He joined the New York University staff as Assistant to the President in 1964 and two years later became Assistant to the President for Student Affairs. He became Assistant Chancellor of Student Affairs in 1967 and was promoted to his present position in 1969. Since 1966 he has held faculty rank as professor of history, offering a graduate course each year in the History of American Foreign Policy.

Author and editor of two books and a variety of articles, Dr. Whiteman is also active in civic, religious and educational affairs. A former trustee of Taft School, he currently serves in that capacity for the Berkeley Divinity School and Hollins College of Hollins, Virginia. He is also a director of the Episcopal Church Foundation.

#### **Hobbies Include Tennis and Sailing**

Maintaining his interest in all sports, Dr. Whiteman is an avid tennis player—as is his wife—and, when time permits, can be found at the helm of a sailboat at Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

Mrs. Whiteman is the former Edith Uhler Davis, also a native of Nashville and a graduate of Vanderbilt University. They are the parents of three children: Bartlett, Yale '70, and Maclin and Priscilla, both undergraduates at Yale.

The Whitemans will move to Sweet Briar in July.

Dr. and Mrs. Whiteman will pay their first official visit to Sweet Briar on Tuesday, May 4, accepting with great pleasure the invitation issued to them by President Pannell in the name of all those who attended the assembly at which Dr. Whiteman's appointment was announced.

Dr. Whiteman will speak briefly at a special convocation at Babcock Auditorium at noon that day, after which he will answer questions.

The president-elect and Mrs. Whiteman will meet the students, faculty, staff and other members of the community at an informal reception in the Wailes College Center that afternoon.



## ***Sweet Briar***

NEWSLETTER

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